

Message Text

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40

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 EB-07 STR-04 OFA-01 CEA-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01

COME-00 TRSE-00 /061 W

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O R 051509Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5065

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 2315

E.O. 11652: GSS

TAGS: PFOR, ECIN, EC, US

SUBJ: DEMARCHE ON CHANGES IN TRADE ACT

REF: STATE 072235

1. I MET WITH FONMIN LUCIO PAREDES AFTERNOON OF APRIL 4. AFTER EXCHANGE OF INITIAL PLEASANTRIES, HE TURNED TO SUBJECT OF US-ECUADOREAN RELATIONS AND SAID THAT DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS WE HAD BEEN THROUGH, WE HAD JOINTLY BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN OUR RELATIONS AT A "CERTAIN LEVEL". HE THANKED ME FOR MY PART IN THIS AND ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS THANKS FOR HIS UNDERSTANDING OF AND HELP ON OUR MUTUAL PROBLEMS.

2. LUCIO PAREDES CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT HE THOUGHT THAT THE RESPONSE OF THE EMBASSY AND THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE FISHING BOAT SEIZURES HAD BEEN A MEASURED AND HELPFUL ONE. FOR ITS PART, THE MINISTRY HAD TAKEN A RESTRAINED POSITION AND HAD NOT ENGAGED IN POLEMICS OF PUBLIC ACCUSATIONS.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE TRA, LUCIO PAREDES SAID THAT AS I
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WOULD NO DOUBLT RECALL, HE HAD MADE ECUADOR'S VIEWS KNOWN

TO DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL DURING THE QUITO MFM BEFORE THE ACT WAS PASSED. THE ACTION ECUADOR HAD SUBSEQUENTLY TAKEN, WHILE PERHAPS ABRUPT, HAD BEEN THE LEAST IT COULD DO. THE GOE HAD NOT, NOWEVER, FOLLOWED THIS UP WITH AN ANTI-US CAMPAIGN.

4. I TOLD THE FONMIN AT THIS POINT I HAD BOTH LISTENED TO AND READ WITH INTEREST PRESIDENT RODIRGUEZ LARA'S SPEECH IN GUAYAQUIL, ESPECIALLY HIS COMMENT CONCERNING THE TRA. I WISHED TO EXPLAIN, ON THE INSTRUCTIONS OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS, EXACTLY WHAT THE ADMINISTRATION WAS DOING TO BRING ABOUT A CHANGE IN THE TRA AND THE TIMING FOR IT. I THEN OUTLINED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL. LUCIO PAREDES REPLIED THAT SECRETARY ROGERS HAD SPOKEN TO THE PRESIDENT ABOUT THIS IN CARACAS, AND THAT HE HAD SAID THAT AN AMENDMENT WOULD BE INTRODUCED BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. I REPEATED THEN THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IN THE CONGRESS AS WE ANTICIPATED THEM IN ORDER THAT LUCIO PAREDES MIGHT BE IN NO DOUBT ABOUT HOW THE PROCESS WOULD DEVELOP. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PROCESS OF AMENDMENT, WITH THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION, WOULD BE UNDERWAY BY MAY 8, BUT THAT IT WOULD NOT BE COMPLETED. THIS DID NOT CAUSE HIM ANY PROBLEM.
BREWSTER

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